

Appln No. 10/749,888
Amdt date December 29, 2004
Reply to Office action of N/A

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-59 remain pending in this application. Applicants have amended claims 5 and 56 to correct the diameter range recited in those claims. Also, Applicants have amended claim 56 to recite a support member disposed within the main region of the mapping assembly. Applicants have also amended claims 6, 8, 10, 31, 32, 35 and 52 solely to correct minor, inadvertent, typographical errors. In addition, Applicants have canceled claim 60. The amendments find full support in the original specification, claims and drawings. No new matter is presented. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments. Applicants also respectfully request consideration of the following remarks prior to examination. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request a timely indication of allowance.

In the parent application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/075,803, the Examiner rejected claims 1-15, 18-24, 28-41, 43, 44 and 46-74 as allegedly anticipated by either U.S. Patent No. 5,626,136 to Webster, Jr., or U.S. Patent No. 6,325,797 to Stewart, et al. The Examiner also rejected these claims as allegedly unpatentable either over Stewart in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,542,781 to Koblish, et al., or over Webster, Jr. in view of Stewart. This application pursues these claims which were cancelled without prejudice from the parent application.

In the present application, independent claims 1, 19, 30, 36, 41, 47, 52 and 56 each recite a mapping assembly having a generally straight distal region extending substantially tangentially relative to a main region of the mapping assembly.

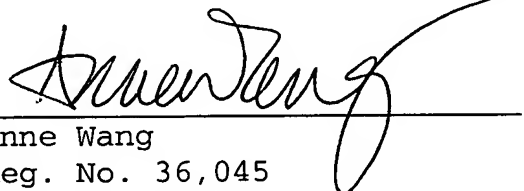
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None of the references cited during examination of the parent application teach or suggest this feature. Accordingly, each of claims 1, 19, 30, 36, 41, 47, 52 and 56, and all claims dependent therefrom, are allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all of claims 1-59, as amended, are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments and a timely indication of allowance. If there are any remaining issues that may be addressed by telephone, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
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By


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626/795-9900

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